

same unique language, and they share the same unique experiences. The programs that are based on the principle of "vets helping vets" are most likely to succeed with homeless veterans. The Department of Labor is currently funding HVRP programs in New York, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Texas, and California—and I hope that the members of this Subcommittee who represent those states will make a point of visiting their HVRP grantees and seeing their good work first hand.

Mr. Chairman, I listened closely to the impressive testimony I heard from the veterans' service organizations who testified before the House Veterans Affairs Committee over the past few months—and I sense an urgent and frustration that I've not heard before. America's veterans are telling us that they have done more than their fair share—and now they expect us to be their advocates. They are reminding us that America is safe and free only because of the generations of men and women who willingly endured the hardships and sacrifices required to preserve our liberty. I urge you to demonstrate your commitment to America's veterans and provide full funding for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program and help bring homeless veterans home.

84TH COMMEMORATION OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, as the horrors in Kosovo continue to unfold, we must not forget the other horrible acts against humanity that preceded it. That is why it is important today that we remember the Armenian Genocide, and honor the memory of the 1.5 million Armenians who died between 1915 and 1923.

The Armenian Genocide started in 1915, when the Turkish government rounded up and killed Armenian soldiers. Then, on April 24, 1915, the government turned its attention to slaughtering Armenian intellectuals. They were killed because of their ethnicity, the first group in the 20th Century killed not for what they did, but for who they were.

By the time the bloodshed of the genocide ended, the victims included the aged, women and children who had been forced from their homes and marched to relocation camps, beaten and brutalized along the way. In addition to the 1.5 million dead, over 500,000 Armenians were chased from their homeland.

It is important that we make the time, every year, to remember the victims of the Armenian genocide. Given global events, that commemoration seems more poignant now. We hope that, by remembering the bloodshed and atrocities committed against the Armenians, we can prevent this kind of tragedy from repeating itself. Unfortunately, these events have again proven us wrong.

So, Mr. Speaker, we must continue to talk about the Armenian genocide. We must keep alive the memory of those who lost their lives during the eight years of bloodshed in Armenia. We must educate other nations who have not recognized that the Armenian genocide occurred. Above all, we must remain vigilant.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Armenian-Americans—the survivors and their descendants—

who continue to educate the world about the tragedy of the Armenian Genocide and make valuable contributions to our shared American culture. Because of their efforts, the world will not be allowed to forget the memory of the victims of the first 20th Century holocaust.

A TRIBUTE TO FRANK PASQUERILLA

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 1999

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, it's with sadness that I note the passing last week of Mr. Frank J. Pasquerilla of Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Frank Pasquerilla was the perfect example of the American Dream.

Growing up poor, through hard-work and dedication he built a Fortune 500 Company. Recognizing the opportunity America had given him, he supported a wide range of economic development, educational advancement, and cultural activities.

Frank made possible the Performing Arts Center at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, educational facilities at Notre Dame, health care facilities at Georgetown University, and environmental opportunities such as the Heritage Discovery Center in Cambria City.

Frank was someone who could work with people of all philosophies, all backgrounds, and all regions because he always kept in mind what was best for the people, and because he always respected the needs of individuals.

Frank has been involved in every step of development in Johnstown for the last 40 years, and because of him today we have a community with more people working than ever before in history, with cultural activities broader than at any time in history, and with a core of educational opportunities.

A decade ago I was on an election oversight mission to Central America with then Notre Dame President Father Hesburgh. When he found out I knew Frank he asked me to intervene because Frank had given the university a contribution for a new building, but wouldn't let them name it for him. We called him from the plane, and it took a great deal of urging, but he finally consented to let the University place his name on the building.

Frank wasn't trying to build a name for himself, but rather to build a legacy for people to help improve their lives, as he'd been able to improve his. And he succeeded.

Frank Pasquerilla's life stands as a symbol of what we can accomplish in America, and his memory is a reminder of the greatness of an individual, and of our Nation.

RADIOACTIVE WASTE CLEAN-UP

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 1999

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce legislation to clean up a 10.5-million ton pile of low-level radioactive waste from

uranium mill operations just outside Moab, Utah. Currently, this pile sits 750 feet from the banks of the Colorado River, across the road from the Arches National Park, and threatens to contaminate the drinking water supply of 25 million people from Nevada, Arizona, and California.

In the 1950's the Atlas Corporation was called upon to process uranium to meet the defense and commercial fuel needs of the United States. As a result, for decades these wastes have accumulated and today we have a pile of low-level radioactive materials that sits just outside of Moab, Utah and at the gates of the Arches National Park, where hundreds of thousands of people visit each year.

This is not only an incredible eyesore among some of the most beautiful red rock cliffs in the country, but it poses a very significant environmental risk. As water leaches through this heap of tailings, it flows into the Colorado River, is swept downstream where it contaminates the sole drinking source for tens of millions of people in Nevada, Arizona, and California. These radioactive wastes threaten that delicate water supply and must be removed and relocated to a safe, secure location where neither public health and safety nor environmental degradation can occur.

Currently, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has the responsibility for cleanup of this pile. Unfortunately, the NRC has determined that keeping this toxic mass in place is adequate. This simply is not the case. My legislation will transfer the jurisdiction from the NRC to the Department of Energy, where remediation and relocation can begin.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this sensible and conscientious legislation.

84TH COMMEMORATION OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 1999

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 84th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide that took place this past weekend at points across the country. The events that took place between 1915 to 1923, when 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children were systematically mistreated and killed, represent one of the most dark and the most devastating chapters in human history. Armenians were tortured, had their property confiscated, and thousands died from malnutrition and starvation during long, forced marches from their homeland in Eastern Turkey.

Tragically, the 20th century is now finishing much like it started. The Armenian Genocide not only foreshadowed the nightmare of the Nazi Holocaust, but now shows dangerous parallels to the situation unfolding in Kosovo. Like the Armenian before them, ethnic Albanians are struggling for their dignity and their lives.

That is why it is more critical than ever to revisit history, to listen and learn from the Armenian experience, and to honor the victims of the first genocide of this century. I am amazed that the Turkish government still refuses to admit its involvement in the atrocities, while at the same time our own government